



JUDICIAL PROFILE

Brian K. Ishikawa became a Superior Court judge in 1995 after a career as a civil litigator for eight years and a criminal prosecutor specializing in crimes against children for five years. He was assigned to a civil calendar upon his appointment to the bench. Soon, he was asked to manage a criminal calendar, as the court's backlog grew in that area and experienced criminal litigators were needed. Immediately before becoming a judge, Ishikawa was with the firm of Gallagher and Kennedy. He joined the legal staff there in 1986 and four years later became a shareholder. During the last five years with the law firm, he also served as a judge pro tem in Superior Court. He received his law degree from Arizona State University's College of Law and obtained his undergraduate degree in business from ASU.

Judge Ishikawa, in less than four years on the Bench, has gained a reputation as an extremely competent and respected trial judge and is often sought out as a speaker and lecturer on ethics and criminal case management. His upbeat attitude and efficiency as a case manager has greatly helped the criminal department reduce trial backlogs and resolve cases quickly. In addition to his work on court committees, he serves on the State Bar Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions and is a member of the Arizona Asian American Bar Association and the Arizona Japanese American Citizens League.

